

GOOSE CREEK SCENIC RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the September 10, 2008 Meeting
Loudoun County Government Center
Lovettsville Room, 1st Floor
1 Harrison Street, S.E., Leesburg, Virginia 20177

Members Present: Chairman Helen E. Casey, Vice Chairman Joan Rokus, John Isom, Benjamin Lawrence, Mark Peterson, Lynn Gibson, Kurt Erickson (proxy)

Members Absent: Stephen Combs-Lafleur, Phil Daley

County Staff Present: David Ward, Department of Building & Development; Brian Fuller, Asst. Recording Secretary, PRCS

Guests: Hazle Edens, Fauquier County Goose Creek Association; Joseph C. Edens, Fauquier County Goose Creek Association; Butter Strother, Fauquier County Goose Creek Association; Chris Pauley, NVRPA Operations Manager

Chairman's Business

Chairman Helen Casey called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. Ben Lawrence motioned to approve the July 9 meeting minutes. Vice Chairman Joan Rokus seconded the motion and it passed. The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at 1:00 p.m. in the Lovettsville Room. The next order of business was introductions, followed by Committee Business.

Committee Business

Chairman Helen Casey updated the Committee on the status of the Play to Win Sports SPEX application. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) voted 8-1 to approve the application on September 2, 2008. Chairman Casey shared a series of e-mail conversations between her and Michael Romeo (the application representative) with the rest of the Committee.

Next, Ben Lawrence presented and discussed his draft letter to the towns concerning "Water Runoff: Where Does It Go?" Ben stressed that the letter was draft, and that he was looking for input from the Committee for language. Ben shared his beliefs that the drinking water supply for much of Loudoun County will continue to come from the Goose Creek and/or the Potomac River (which the Goose Creek flows in to), and that the growth of the towns is polluting the creek and impairing recreational uses.

John Isom wanted to collect and include more County data in the letter to help solidify the case being made in the letter. In response, Vice Chairman Rokus suggested that the Committee should coordinate with the local Soil and Water Conservation, as well as getting more input from B&D Water Resources. Mark Peterson wanted to push the Committee's willingness to coordinate the future endeavor to bring all of the towns together for discussion and action, but admitted that there is no funding for such endeavors.

Chairman Casey mentioned that the Chesapeake Bay Foundation has grant money available for such issues, and Ben agreed that the Committee should pursue this funding for preparation and mailing of the letter. David Ward mentioned the future request for proposals (RFP) from the County for stream assessment, and also suggested that the Committee pursue a continuation of the SWMS process.

After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Casey requested each member draft and submit revised letters by the next meeting. She then made the motion to move forward with the concept of sending a letter to the towns concerning water run off. Vice Chairman Rokus seconded.

Review and Revision of the GCSRAC By-Laws

Chairman Casey brought forward the need to revise the CGSRAC By-Laws to include the Fauquier County portion of the Goose Creek, currently being overseen by the Goose Creek Association. As the GCSRAC reports to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Chairman Casey reported on her discussion with DCR about their direction to clarify the existence and partnership between the Loudoun County and Fauquier County groups and their by-laws.

The Fauquier County contingent has always maintained their desire to be a separate group, but DCR does not support the concept of two groups overseeing the same contiguous body of water. DCR recommended creating two subcommittees under the existing GCSRAC "umbrella" or create one Fauquier subcommittee under the Loudoun County GCSRAC.

After much discussion and debate, it was agreed that the Fauquier County Subcommittee would be formed as a separate entity under the GCSRAC, and that at least one meeting would be held annually for the "Committee of the Whole." The Committee then went through the By-Laws, and amended them where necessary to include references to the Fauquier County Subcommittee. The sections revised included Article IV, Location; Article VI, Membership; Article VII, Officers; and the addition of a new Article VIII, Subcommittee. This caused the renumbering and revision of the articles as follows: Article IX, Meetings; Article X, Quorum (revised); Article XI, Indemnification; Article XII, Audit (revised); Article XIII, Technical Advisors (revised); Article XIV, Amendments (revised); and Article XV, Standing Rules (revised).

John Isom made the motion to accept the By-Laws as amended 9-10-8, including creating the Fauquier County Subcommittee. It was seconded by Vice-Chairman Rokus. With the agreement of the Fauquier representatives present, the Motion passed unanimously. Vice Chairman Rokus also reminded the Committee Members of their duty to notify the Chairman of their proxy if they cannot be in meeting attendance.

There being no further business of the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian G. Fuller, PRCS